

GEORGIA SECRETARY OF STATE KAREN C. HANDEL GEORGIA BOARD OF VETERINARIANS





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Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine Chairman's Corner January 15, 2008

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine consists of five practitioners from throughout the state and one consumer member. Board members are appointed by the Governor. The Board's legal charge is to oversee the licensing process and practice of veterinary medicine and to provide consumer protection. The Board expects its licensees to be aware of the laws, rules and policies which govern the practice in Georgia. The most current Board information can be found on its website at www.sos.georgia.gov/plb/veterinary.

The most recent issues of concern to the Board surround the following:

- Practice that falls below the acceptable standard of care
- Inadequate documentation in patient records (Board Rule 700-8-.01(c)).

It is the responsibility of the licensed veterinarian to assure that the facility where he or she practices is in compliance with the minimum standards. These standards are outlined in Board Rules 700-12-.01 through 700-12-.12.

Also, the Board has recently adopted rules outlining the scope of practice for veterinary technicians and veterinary assistance. Please review this information in Board Rules 700-14-.01 through 700-14-.04 for technicians and 700-15-.01 through 700-15-.04 for assistants.

The Board meets bi-monthly in Macon at the Professional Licensing Board and all meetings are open to the public. We welcome comments pertaining to issues of concern to the veterinarian community.

We encourage all practitioners to get involved and join the professional association in Georgia. We have a strong working relationship with this organization and we find it to be a great resource for practitioners.

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Georgia whose animals deserve to receive quality veterinary care.

Jan Hines, D.V.M.

President

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine encourages your review of its website. Information can be found as follows:

Board meeting dates & locations:

http://sos.georgia.gov/cgi-bin/MeetingDatesResults.asp?BoardID=38

Board member listing: http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/veterinary/board_members.htm

Board Rules: http://sos.georgia.gov/acrobat/PLB/Rules/chapt700.pdf

Disciplinary Actions/Board Sanctions: http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/PublicOrders/

Information on the consumer complaint process:

http://sos.georgia.gov/myverification/SubmitComplaint.aspx

Information on federations & professional associations:

http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/veterinary/associations.htm